

TAXATION IS THEFT

by Chris R. Tame

If a thug — a mugger — were to accost you in the street and demand your wallet or purse, you wouldn't hesitate in knowing what to call it — theft.

If a group of thugs were to demand at least a third of your income every month and threaten dire consequences if you didn't accept their offer of "protection", you wouldn't hesitate in knowing what to call it — theft.

Yet you are robbed every day. At least a third of your income every month is taken from you forcibly without your consent. It is taken by the government. And yes, even if only a few realise it, that too is theft.

In fact, the only difference is that the government is less honest than its private competitors in crime. At least a common thief doesn't claim to be committing his crime for your own good, to be performing a desirable social service in the public interest.

Is taxation necessary?

But is taxation somehow necessary, as some might reply? Do we need to pay taxes to enjoy such desirable services as hospitals, roads, postal deliveries, railways, police protection and so on?

Among the many facts you won't be taught in the compulsory State school, or State university, is that throughout history there are numerous instances of private enterprise supplying everything from roads, schools and hospitals, to currency, police protection and law courts.

Government is incompetent

And as we witness more clearly with every passing day, the government is extremely incompetent in organising these things. Sky-rocketing prices, plunging quality, poor value for money, red tape, inefficiency, featherbedding — these are the characteristics of all State services, from the post office and railways to even the police and law courts!

But still the busy little bureaucrats and power-crazed socialist politicians (of all parties!) won't let even an iota of competition and free choice intrude into their allegedly beneficial world of public services!

Free enterprise in a free market can provide all those services which have for so long been seen as the province of the State. And they would do it better and cheaper than now.

Yet repeatedly the State, to erect and preserve its own bungling monopolies, has crushed by force of law any successful and efficient competitors who have truly served the public.

What about the needy?

But what about "those in need"? Isn't taxation justified to help the poor, the aged, the sick, all those "who can't help themselves"?

Most people would feel sceptical if the thief who was robbing them claimed he was performing a moral act because he needed the money. Would you feel morally obliged to co-operate with his forcible redistribution of wealth?



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But what, then, is the difference when the State does this on a massive scale, when it hands out your hard earned money to any scrounger or ne'er-do-well who proclaims his need?

No, even those who truly "can't help themselves" do not have a right to help themselves to the contents of your pocket — to steal from you. For how can you be considered free if you have no right to the fruits of your labour, if every one in need has some supposedly divine right to be supported by you?

Voluntary Aid

If you wish to help others then that is your affair. No one, but no one, has the right to demand your help, your money — whether it be a single individual or a group of individuals calling themselves the government. And, perhaps there might be a few less "needy" if the government were to allow us to keep our money and make our own provision for sickness and old age. If it ceased creating inflation to destroy the value of our money and what savings we do have. If it stopped making us pay through the nose for its inefficient and costly public services and allowed us free choice. And if it no longer stifled prosperity and economic growth by its perpetual meddling and bestowing of privileges, subsidies and protective tariffs.

Taxation is immoral

There is, then, no justification whatsoever, either practical or moral for taxation. Taxation *is* theft and the sooner everyone realises it the better. For the truth *can* set you free. You can say *no*. No to the ceaseless looting of your property, the destruction of your liberty by the State.

We can resist

Under the jackboot of Nazi (National Socialist) rule thousands in Europe joined the Resistance. To regain our freedom and dignity from the ever-more severe rule of the socialist State we, too, must resist.

Resist the legalised crime of taxation. The grasping bureaucrats, the hot-handed welfare-workers, the envious and hate-filled trade union leaders and socialist politicians, all act as if your money was rightfully theirs, as if they have every right to bestow it wherever they see fit. And as long as *you* believe that they have this right, as long as you *let* them behave like that, then they will continue to do so. But we can and must sweep aside the debasement of morality and language, where honest individuals are incarcerated for rightfully attempting to keep the money they have earned with their own hands, where innocent victims are branded as criminals and the real criminals are their judges and gaolers.

Taxation leads to slavery

In the last analysis, taxation is even *worse* than theft. For you are not merely victims who have the misfortune of being robbed once or twice. You are robbed every second of every day of every year. Taxation is levied on every penny we earn and on every product we buy. Your money and your life cannot truly be called your own. Always the first claim to it is that of the State.

There is a word for those whose lives and property are not their own, but who are forced to work for others — slaves.

And it is time the slaves rebelled!!

